

## **Chapter 138**

### **SEWERS**

**[HISTORY: Adopted by the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Granby 12-5-1968. Amendments noted where applicable.]**

#### **GENERAL REFERENCES**

Water Pollution Control Authority — See Ch. 6, Art. II.  
Violation and citation hearing procedures — See Ch. 58.  
Solid waste — See Ch. 144.

#### **ARTICLE I Terminology**

##### **§ 138-1. Definitions; word usage.**

A. As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

**BOD (DENOTING BIOCHEMICAL OXYGEN DEMAND)** — The quantity of oxygen utilized in the biochemical oxidation of organic matter under standard laboratory procedure in five days at 20° C., expressed in milligrams per liter.

**BUILDING DRAIN** — That part of the lowest horizontal piping of a drainage system which receives the discharge from soil and sanitary waste pipes inside the walls of the building and conveys it to the building sewer, beginning five feet outside the inner face of the building wall.

**BUILDING SEWER** — The extension from the building drain to the public sewer or other place of disposal.

**COMBINED SEWER** — A sewer receiving both surface runoff and sewage.

**COOLING WATER** — Includes clean wastewater from air conditioning, industrial cooling, condensing and similar apparatus and from hydraulically powered equipment. In general, cooling water will include only water which is sufficiently clean and unpolluted to admit it to be discharged, without treatment or purification, into any natural open stream or watercourse without offense.

**GARBAGE** — Solid wastes from the domestic and commercial preparation, cooking, and dispensing of food and from the handling, storage, and sale of produce.

**INDUSTRIAL WASTES** — The liquid wastes from industrial manufacturing processes, trade, or business as distinct from sanitary sewage.

**LATERAL** — That portion of the building sewer that extends from a private property line to the point of connection on the public sewer.

**MULTIFAMILY DEVELOPMENTS** — A grouping of residential buildings as provided by the Zoning Regulations of Granby, which are served by one or more common connections to the sanitary sewer. [Added 6-18-1973]

**NATURAL OUTLET** — Any outlet into a watercourse, pond, ditch, lake, or other body of surface water or groundwater.

**PERSON** — Any individual, trustee, firm, company, partnership, association, society, corporation, or group.

**pH** — The logarithm of the reciprocal of the weight of hydrogen ions in grams per liter solution.

**PRIVATE PROPERTY LINE** — The street line where such line has been legally established, otherwise it shall be a line generally parallel to and five feet distant away from the edge of pavement abutting the property.

**PROPERLY SHREDDED GARBAGE** — The wastes from the preparation, cooking, and dispensing of food that have been shredded to such a degree that all particles will be carried freely under the flow conditions normally prevailing in public sewers, with no particle greater than 1/2 inch in any dimension.

**PUBLIC SEWER** — A sewer in which all owners of abutting properties have equal rights, and is controlled by public authority.

**SANITARY SEWER** — A sewer which carries sewage and to which stormwater, surface water, and groundwater are not intentionally admitted.

**SEWAGE** — A combination of the water-carried wastes from residences, business buildings, institutions and industrial establishments.

**SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT** — Any arrangement of devices and structures used for treating sewage.

**SEWAGE WORKS** — All facilities for collecting, pumping, treating, and disposing of sewage.

**SEWER** — A pipe or conduit for carrying sewage.

**SLUG** — Any discharge of water, sewage, or industrial waste which in concentration of any given constituent or in quantity of flow exceeds for any period of duration longer than 15 minutes more than five times the average twenty-four-hour concentration of flows during normal operation.

**STORM DRAIN (SOMETIMES TERMED STORM SEWER)** — A sewer which carries stormwater and surface water and drainage, but excludes sewage and industrial wastes, other than unpolluted cooling water.

**SUSPENDED SOLIDS** — Solids that either float on the surface of or are in suspension in water, sewage, or other liquids, and which are removable by laboratory filtering.

**TOWN** — The Town of Granby, County of Hartford, State of Connecticut.

WATERCOURSE — A channel in which a flow of water occurs, either continuously or intermittently.

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY — The Water Pollution Control Authority of the Town of Granby, as established by ordinance, and with all of the powers, purposes and objectives, set forth in Chapter 103 of the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut, as amended, or its authorized deputy, agent, or representative.<sup>1</sup>

B. "Shall" is mandatory; "may" is permissive.

## ARTICLE II

### Use of Public Sewers Required

#### **§ 138-2. Prohibited waste disposal.**

- A. It shall be unlawful for any person to place, deposit, or permit to be deposited in any unsanitary manner on public or private property within the Town of Granby, or in any area under the jurisdiction of said Town, any human or animal excrement, garbage, or other objectionable waste.
- B. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit the use of animal excrement for normal agricultural use as fertilizer.

#### **§ 138-3. Prohibited discharges.**

It shall be unlawful to discharge to any natural outlet within the Town of Granby, or in any area under the jurisdiction of said Town, any sewage or other polluted waters, except where suitable treatment has been provided in accordance with subsequent provisions of this chapter.

#### **§ 138-4. Prohibited private sewage disposal.**

Except as hereinafter provided, it shall be unlawful to construct or maintain any privy, privy vault, septic tank, cesspool, or other facility intended or used for the disposal of sewage.

#### **§ 138-5. Connection to public sewers required.**

The owner of all houses buildings or properties used for human occupancy, employment, recreation or other purposes, situated within the Town and abutting on any street alley or right-of-way in which there is now located a public sanitary sewer of the Town, is hereby required at his expense to install suitable toilet facilities therein and to connect such facilities directly with the proper public sewer in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, within 90 days after date of official notice by the Water Pollution Control Authority to do so, provided that said public sewer is installed in a public way which abuts property of the user.

## ARTICLE III

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<sup>1</sup>. Editor's Note: Amended at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. I).

## **Private Sewage Disposal**

### **§ 138-6. Connection when public sewer unavailable.**

Where a public sanitary sewer is not available under the provisions of Article II, § 138-5, the building sewer shall be connected to a private sewage disposal system complying with the provisions of this article.

### **§ 138-7. Permit required.**

Before commencement of construction of a private sewage disposal system, the owner shall first obtain a written permit signed by the Building Official or other agent designated by the Planning and Zoning Commission. The application for such permit shall be made on a form furnished by the Town, which the applicant shall supplement by any plans, specifications and other information as are deemed necessary by the Planning and Zoning Commission. A permit and inspection fee, as determined by the Planning and Zoning Commission or other Town authority, shall be paid to the Town at the time the application is filed.

### **§ 138-8. Inspection.**

A permit for a private sewage disposal system shall not become effective until the installation is completed to the satisfaction of the Building Official or other agent designated by the Planning and Zoning Commission. They shall be allowed to inspect the work at any stage of construction and, in any event, the applicant for the permit shall notify the Building Official or other agent designated by the Planning and Zoning Commission when the work is ready for final inspection and before any underground portions are covered. The inspection shall be made within 48 hours of the receipt of notice by the Building Official or other agent designated by the Planning and Zoning Commission.

### **§ 138-9. Compliance with state recommendations and other provisions.**

The type, capacities, location, and layout of a private sewage disposal system shall comply with all recommendations of the Connecticut State Department of Health and any ordinance adopted by the Town. No septic tank or cesspool shall be permitted to discharge to any natural outlet.

### **§ 138-10. Notice to connect; connection requirements.**

At such time as a public sewer becomes available to a property served by a private sewage disposal system, as provided in Article II, § 138-5, application shall be made for a written permit pursuant to Article IV, § 138-13, within 14 days after receipt of a notice to connect, and a direct connection shall be made to the public sewer within 60 days after receipt of notice to connect in compliance with this chapter, and any septic tanks, cesspool and similar private sewage disposal facilities shall be cleaned and filled with suitable material as directed by the Water Pollution Control Authority.

### **§ 138-11. Operation and maintenance.**

The owner shall operate and maintain the private sewage disposal facilities in a sanitary manner at all times, at no expense to the Town.

**§ 138-12. Additional requirements.**

No statement contained in this article shall be construed to interfere with any additional requirements that may be imposed by the Director of Health or any other ordinance duly adopted by the Town.

ARTICLE IV  
**Building Sewers and Connections**

**§ 138-13. Sewer permit required.**

No person shall uncover, make any connections with or opening into use, alter, or disturb any public sewer or appurtenance thereof without first obtaining prior authorization from the Water Pollution Control Authority.

**§ 138-14. Classes of permits; application.**

- A. There shall be three classes of building sewer permits:
  - (1) For individual residential and commercial service;
  - (2) For service to establishments producing industrial wastes; and
  - (3) For multifamily developments.
- B. In either case, the owner or his agent shall make application on a special form furnished by the Town. The permit application shall be supplemented by any plans, specifications, or other information considered pertinent in the judgement of the Water Pollution Control Authority. A permit and inspection fee may be charged and shall be paid to the Town at the time the application is filed.

**§ 138-15. Costs of installation and connection; indemnification of Town.**

All costs and expenses incident to the installation and connection of the building sewer shall be borne by the owner. The owner shall indemnify the Town from any loss or damage that may directly or indirectly be occasioned by the installation of the building sewer.

**§ 138-16. Independent sewer requirement; exception.**

A separate and independent building sewer shall be provided for every building; except that where one building stands at the rear of another on an interior lot and no private sewer is available or can be constructed to the rear building through an adjoining alley, courtyard, or driveway, the building sewer from the front building may be extended to the rear building and the whole considered as one building sewer.

**§ 138-17. Use of old building sewers.**

Old building sewers may be used in connection with new buildings only when they are found, on examination and test by the Water Pollution Control Authority, to meet all requirements of this chapter.

**§ 138-18. Sewer specifications.**<sup>2</sup>

The Water Pollution Control Authority shall from time to time establish standard requirements or specifications to regulate the sizes, materials, methods and workmanship to be used in the construction of sewers, drains, house connections, and other similar work and appurtenances thereto connected or intended to be connected or to discharge, directly or indirectly, into any public sewer or drain of the Town of Granby. Such standard requirements shall provide minimum requirements as to size, depth, slope or rate of grade for such pipes, shall regulate the kinds of pipe, fittings, methods of laying, jointing, materials used, manner of connecting to preexisting sewers and drains, and general considerations as to location and other pertinent features. Any such requirements or specifications, as the same may from time to time be amended, are hereby made a part of this chapter. The above requirements or specifications shall act as extensions of the state building code, as applicable.

**§ 138-19. Low building drains.**

In all buildings in which any building drain is too low to permit gravity flow to the public sewer, sanitary sewage carried by such building drain shall be lifted by a means approved by the Water Pollution Control Authority and discharged to the sanitary sewer at the owner's expense.

**§ 138-20. Prohibited connections.**

No person shall make connection of roof downspouts, interior or exterior foundation drains, areaway drains, or other sources of surface runoff or groundwater to a building sewer or building drain which in turn is connected directly or indirectly to a public sanitary sewer.

**§ 138-21. Placement of laterals.**

From the public sewer, at the time of initial construction, a lateral will be placed extending to the property line of each existing building from which a building sewer is to be connected. Subject to sound engineering practices, the location of such lateral shall be at the discretion of the property owner.

**§ 138-22. Connection requirements.**<sup>3</sup>

The connection of the building sewer into the public sewer shall conform to the requirements of the state building code or other applicable rules and regulations of the Town, or the procedures set forth by the Water Pollution Control Authority. All such

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<sup>2</sup>. Editor's Note: Amended at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. I).

<sup>3</sup>. Editor's Note: Amended at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. I).

connections shall be made gastight and watertight. Any deviation from the prescribed procedures and materials must be approved by the Water Pollution Control Authority before installation.

**§ 138-23. Standards for construction and repair.** <sup>4</sup>

All connections to the Granby public sewer system shall be made in accordance with the Standards for Construction and Repair of Sewer Lateral Connections as adopted and amended by the Granby Water Pollution Control Authority.<sup>5</sup>

ARTICLE V  
**Use of Public Sewers**

**§ 138-24. Discharge of unpolluted water or drainage prohibited.**

No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any stormwater, surface water, groundwater, roof runoff, subsurface drainage, uncontaminated cooling water, or unpolluted industrial process waters to any sanitary sewer.

**§ 138-25. Discharge of certain substances prohibited.**

No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any of the following described waters or wastes to any public sewers:

- A. Any gasoline, benzene, naptha, fuel oil, kerosene, alcohol, or other flammable or explosive liquid, solid, or gas;
- B. Any waters or wastes containing toxic or poisonous solids, liquids, or gases in sufficient quantity, either singly or by interaction with other wastes, to injure or interfere with any sewage treatment process, constitute a hazard to humans or animals, create a public nuisance, or create any hazard in the receiving waters of the sewage treatment plant, including but not limited to cyanides in excess of two mg/1 CN in the wastes as discharged to the public sewer;
- C. Any waters or wastes having a pH lower than 5.5 or having any other corrosive property capable of causing damage or hazard to structures, equipment, and personnel of the sewage works; and
- D. Any ashes, cinders, sand, mud, straw, shavings, metal, glass, rags, feathers, tar, plastics, wood, paunch manure, or any other solid or viscous substance capable of causing obstruction to the flow in sewers or other interference with the proper operation of the sewerage system.

**§ 138-26. Limitations and restrictions on certain substances.**

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<sup>4</sup>. Editor's Note: Amended at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. I).

<sup>5</sup>. Editor's Note: Original Sec. 12, regarding excavations for building sewer installation; original Sec. 13, regarding the authority to vary sewer connection requirements; and original Sec. 14, added 6-18-1973, regarding applications for permits for multifamily developments, which immediately followed this section, were deleted at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. I).

No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged the following described substances, materials, waters, or wastes if, in the judgment of the Water Pollution Control Authority, it appears likely that such wastes can harm the sewers, sewage treatment process, or equipment; have an adverse effect on the receiving stream; or can otherwise endanger life, limb, public property, or constitute a nuisance. In making a judgment as to the acceptability of these wastes, the Water Pollution Control Authority will give consideration to factors, including, but not limited to, the quantities of subject wastes in relation to flows and velocities in the sewers, materials of construction of the sewers, nature of the sewage treatment process, capacity of the sewage treatment plant, degree of treatability of wastes in the sewage treatment plant, and other pertinent factors. The substances prohibited are:

- A. Any liquid or vapor having a temperature higher than 150° F. (65° C.);
- B. Any water or waste containing fats, wax, grease, or oils, whether emulsified or not, in excess of 100 mg/l or containing substances which may solidify or become viscous at temperatures between 32° and 150° F. (0° and 65° C.);
- C. Any garbage that has not been properly shredded;
- D. Any waters, or wastes containing strong acid iron pickling wastes, or concentrated plating solutions whether neutralized or not;
- E. Any waters or wastes containing iron, chromium, copper, zinc, and similar objectionable or toxic substances, or wastes exerting an excessive chlorine requirement, to such a degree that any such material received in the composite sewage at the sewage treatment works exceeds the limits established by the Water Pollution Control Authority for such materials;
- F. Any waters or wastes containing phenols or other tests or odor producing substances, in such concentrations exceeding limits which may be established by the Water Pollution Control Authority as necessary, after treatment of the composite sewage, to meet the requirements of the state, federal, or other public agencies of jurisdiction for such discharge to the receiving waters;
- G. Any radioactive wastes or isotopes of such half-life or concentration as may exceed limits established by the Water Pollution Control Authority in compliance with applicable state or federal regulations;
- H. Any waters or wastes having a pH in excess of 9.0;
- I. Materials which exert or cause:
  - (1) Unusual concentrations of inert suspended solids (such as, but not limited to, fullers earth, lime slurries, and lime residues) or of dissolved solids (such as, but not limited to, sodium chloride and sodium sulfate);
  - (2) Excessive discoloration (such as, but not limited to, dye wastes and vegetable tanning solutions);



- (3) Unusual BOD, chemical oxygen demand, or chlorine requirements in such quantities as to constitute a significant load on the sewage treatment works; and
  - (4) Unusual volume of flow or concentration of wastes constituting slugs as defined herein;
- J. Waters or wastes containing substances which are not amenable to treatment or reduction by the sewage treatment processes employed, or are amenable to treatment only to such degree that the sewage treatment plant effluent cannot meet the requirements of other agencies having jurisdiction over discharge to the receiving waters.

**§ 138-27. Discharge of deleterious substances.**

- A. If any waters or wastes are discharged, or are proposed to be discharged into the public sewers, which waters contain the substances or possess the characteristics enumerated in § 138-26 of this article, and which in the judgment of the Water Pollution Control Authority may have a deleterious effect upon the sewage works, processes, equipment, or receiving waters, or which otherwise create a hazard to life or constitutes a public nuisance, the Water Pollution Control Authority may:
  - (1) Reject the wastes;
  - (2) Require pretreatment to an acceptable condition for discharge to the public sewers;
  - (3) Require control over the quantities and rates of discharge; and/or
  - (4) Require payment to cover the added cost of handling and treating the wastes not covered by existing taxes or sewer charges under the provisions of § 138-32 of this article.
- B. If the Water Pollution Control Authority permits the pretreatment or equalization of waste flows, the design and installation of the plants and equipment shall be subject to the review and approval of the Water Pollution Control Authority.

**§ 138-28. Interceptors.**

Grease, oil, and sand interceptors shall be provided when, in the judgment of the Water Pollution Control Authority, they are necessary for the proper handling of liquid wastes containing grease in excessive amounts, or any flammable wastes, sand, or other harmful ingredients; except that such interceptors shall not be required for private living quarters or dwelling units. All interceptors shall be of a type and capacity approved by the Water Pollution Control Authority and shall be located as to be readily and easily accessible for cleaning and inspection.

**§ 138-29. Maintenance of facilities.**

Where preliminary treatment or flow-equalizing facilities are provided for any waters or wastes, they shall be maintained continuously in satisfactory and effective operation by the owner, at his expense, unless the Water Pollution Control Authority deems continued operation unnecessary.

**§ 138-30. Control manhole for industrial wastes.**

When required by the Water Pollution Control Authority, the owner of any property serviced by a building sewer carrying industrial wastes shall install a suitable control manhole together with such necessary meters and other appurtenances in the building sewer to facilitate observation, sampling, and measurement of the wastes. Such manhole, when required, shall be accessibly and safely located and shall be constructed in accordance with plans approved by the Water Pollution Control Authority. The manhole shall be installed by the owner, at his expense, and shall be maintained by him so as to be safe and accessible at all times.

**§ 138-31. Measurements, tests, and analyses.**

All measurements, tests, and analyses of the characteristics of waters and wastes to which reference is made in this chapter shall be determined in accordance with the latest edition of "Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater," published by the American Public Health Association, and shall be determined at the control manhole provided upon suitable samples taken at said control manhole. In the event that no special manhole has been required, the control manhole shall be considered to be the nearest downstream manhole in the public sewer to the point at which the building sewer is connected. Sampling shall be carried out by customarily accepted methods to reflect the effect of constituents upon the sewage works and to determine the existence of hazards to life, limb and property.

**§ 138-32. Special arrangements.**

No statement contained in this article shall be construed as preventing any special agreement or arrangement between the Water Pollution Control Authority and any industrial concern whereby any compatible industrial waste of unusual strength or character may be accepted by the Water Pollution Control Authority for treatment, subject to payment therefor by the industrial concern, and further provided that in the judgment of the Water Pollution Control Authority such compatible waste will not unduly tax the sewage treatment facilities.

ARTICLE VI  
**Responsibility and Liability**

**§ 138-33. No personal liability for lawful discharge of official duties.**

An agent of the Water Pollution Control Authority and all other officers or employees of the Water Pollution Control Authority charged with the enforcement of this chapter while acting under authority of the Water Pollution Control Authority shall not thereby render himself liable personally, and he is hereby relieved from all personal liability for all

damage that may occur to persons or property as a result of any act required or permitted in the discharge of his official duties. Any suit instituted against any officer or employee because of an act performed by him in the lawful discharge of his duties and under the provisions of this chapter shall be defended by the legal representative of the Water Pollution Control Authority until the final termination of the proceedings. In no case shall the agent or any of his subordinates be liable for cost in any action, suit or proceedings that may be instituted pursuant to the provisions of this chapter; and any officer or subordinate of the Commission acting in good faith and without malice shall be free from liability for acts performed under any of the provisions of this chapter or by reason of any act or omission in the performance of his official duties in connection therewith.

**§ 138-34. Permit or approval not basis for liability.**

Neither a permittee nor the general public shall be entitled to use the approval of the Water Pollution Control Authority as the basis for reliance as to the safety of the design or construction of any sewer project or appurtenance thereto. The issuance of a permit or approval of construction by the Water Pollution Control Authority or its officers or employees shall not render the Town of Granby, the Water Pollution Control Authority, or its officers and employees, liable for any damages resulting from defective design or defective construction of any work covered by said permit or approval.

**ARTICLE VII**

**Powers and Authority of Inspectors**

**§ 138-35. Entry to real property for inspection, sampling and testing.**

The Water Pollution Control Authority and its authorized agents bearing proper credentials and identification shall be permitted to enter upon any real property for the purposes of inspection, observation, measurement, sampling and testing, in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

**§ 138-36. Entry to private property subject to Town easement.**

The Water Pollution Control Authority and other duly authorized employees of the Town bearing proper credentials and identification shall be permitted to enter all private properties through which the Town holds an easement for the purposes of, but not limited to, inspection, observation, measurement, sampling, repair, and maintenance of any portion of the sewage works lying within said easement. All entry and subsequent work, if any, on said easement shall be done in full accordance with any terms of the easement pertaining to the private property involved.

**ARTICLE VIII**

**Penalties**

**§ 138-37. Notice of violation.**

Any person found to be violating any provision of this chapter shall be served by the Town with written notice stating the nature of the violation and providing a reasonable time limit for the satisfactory correction thereof, except that an order to connect to the

sewerage system shall be pursuant to § 7-257 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended. The offender shall, within the period of time stated in such notice, permanently cease all violations.

**§ 138-38. Penalties for offenses.** <sup>6</sup>

Any person who shall continue any violation beyond the time limit, provided for in Article VIII, § 138-37, shall be fined not more than \$250 for each violation. Each day in which any such violation shall continue shall be deemed a separate offense.

**§ 138-39. Liability for expense, loss or damage.**

Any person violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall become liable to the Town for any expense, loss, or damage occasioned the Town by reason of such violation.

ARTICLE IX  
**Sewer District**  
[Amended 7-7-1971<sup>7</sup>]

**§ 138-40. Sewer District definitions.**

As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

**SEWER DISTRICT** — All properties abutting the sewer line and as outlined on the Town existing sewer line map, as adopted and amended by the Water Pollution Control Authority.

**SEWER SERVICE AREA** — An area where the sewer line may be extended by future action of the Water Pollution Control Authority.

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<sup>6</sup>. Editor's Note: Amended at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. I).

<sup>7</sup>. Editor's Note: Amended at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. I).